

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: : Jean-Luc PERON
U.S. Serial No. : Filed Concurrently Herewith
Title of Invention : DATA PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD

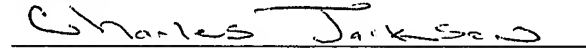
745 Fifth Avenue
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

**Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

Before the issuance of the first Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows: